

the edmonton Specifier

Construction Specifications Canada is an organization representing diverse interests in the construction industry and related professions. It is dedicated to improving the quality and flow of information between these interests, whether in the form of specifications, contract administration or marketing.

April 2024 Edition

Editor: Tracey Stawnichy

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INFONET 2024

Date: Thursday, April 11, 2024

Time: 3:00pm – 10:00pm

Place: Doubletree by Hilton
16615 – 109 Avenue NW, Edmonton, AB T5P 4K8

Schedule:

3:00pm: Reception and Tradeshow

5:30pm: Host Announcements

5:45pm: Dinner

7:00pm: Host Introductions

7:20pm: Keynote Speaker: Kevin Valley

9:00pm: Networking

INFONET is the CSC Edmonton Chapter's premier event of the year that combines networking, education, and inspiration. Join us for this half-day experience and learn about new materials and technologies, acquaint yourself with people in the design and construction industry, and be inspired to foster some 'out-of-the-box' thinking.

After spending nearly twenty years testing the limits of human endurance in the most inhospitable environments on the planet, Kevin Valley inspires audiences with his core belief that it doesn't take a hidden talent or a gift to achieve big goals, it's something we're all capable of doing.

As a keynote speaker, award-winning architect and internationally recognized adventurer, Kevin offers a unique perspective that no matter what the goal, the fundamentals to achieving success as a trusted leader is to walk the talk, create purposeful collaboration, and build psychological trust. Kevin has learned that these fundamentals allow any team to operate at their peak performance regardless of where they operate.

Kevin has proven that he can thrive in the most adverse conditions imaginable. He has overcome insurmountable setbacks by seeing them as opportunities for creative thinking and innovation, rather than as impediments to success. Through his experiences he has garnered a powerful understanding of leadership, resilience, and perspective in unpredictable and fast-changing environments, and has translated this knowledge into a business acumen that activates and amplifies leadership instincts.

Connecting to WHY he does what he does – the purpose behind his goals – is key to what drives Kevin's actions and the legacy he hopes to create.

2024 Edmonton Chapter Executive		
Director	Tracey Stawnichy	780 994 3699
Chairman	Andrew Brassington	587 341 5268
Vice-Chairman	Dylan Leclair	587 335 9552
Secretary	Jessica Prosser	587 340 7169
Treasurer	Catherine Osborne	780 705 7108
Architectural	Kevin Osborne	780 717 1007
Chapter Liaison	Position Open	
Education	Mike Ewaskiw	780 554 4457
Engineer	Jamie Murphy	780 983 0288
General Contractor	Position Open	
Interior Design	Corry Bent	780 995 1647
Manufacturer/Supplier	Mike Lafontaine	780 907 4920
Marketing, Promotion, and Communications	Jamie Murphy	780 983 0288
Membership	Dave Lawrence	780 901 7260
Newsletter	Tracey Stawnichy	780 994 3699
Specifications	David Watson	780 758 4147
Website Administrator	David Watson	780 758 4147
Trade Contractor	Kevin Kramers	587 232 0613
Program	Abby Sharpe	780 953 2950
Owner's Rep	Cam Munro	780 231 1739
Sustainability	Position Open	
At Large	Dave Lawrence	780 901 7260

Advertising Rates
<p>Business Card: April 1 to May 30 Rates cover your ad on our website 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Business card on-line: Annual \$100 if received by May 1; \$75 if received by August 1; \$50 if received by November 1; \$25 if received by February 1 Add \$50 to have a link to your company web site from the CSC Edmonton Chapter web page.</p>

Chapter Sponsor
<p>New Chapter Sponsor Bundles: edmonton.csc-dcc.ca/About+Us/Sponsor+Opportunities++CSC+Edmonton+Chapter/</p>

Student Sponsor

Meeting Sponsor
<p>\$50 for Individual (personal) Sponsor \$250 for Corporate Sponsor</p>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact any member of the Executive, attend one of our Chapter Meetings, send your name and address to CSC Edmonton Chapter, PO Box 35093 Mid Town PO. Edmonton, AB T5J 0B7, or go to edmonton.csc-dcc.ca for additional contact information.

GOALS OF CSC

Construction Specifications Canada is a multi-disciplinary non-profit association dedicated to the improvement of communication, contract documentation, and technical information in the Construction Industry. CSC is a national Association with Chapters in most major Canadian Cities.

To this end, CSC pursues the study of systems and procedures that will improve the coordination and dissemination of information relevant to the construction process.

We seek to enhance the quality of the design and management aspects of the construction activity through programs of publication, education, and professional development, believing that by so doing, we can contribute best to the efficiency and effectiveness of the construction industry as a whole.

OBJECTIVES OF CSC

To foster the interest of those who are engaged in or who are affected by the compilation or use any forms of specifications for the construction industry.

To publish literature pertaining to the construction industry.

To engage in activities to improve procedures and techniques related to the construction industry.

The opinions and comments expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect the official views of Construction Specifications Canada. Also, appearance of advertisements and new product or service information does not constitute an endorsement of those featured products or services.

Announcements:

Chair's Message



Andrew Brassington, CSC Edmonton | Chapter Chair

Hello Chapter Members,

Thank you all who attended the two presentations we had in March. Both presentations were well received, and we appreciate both our speakers Robert Wirth and Paul Chang.

Our annual, most attended event Infonet is fast approaching. New venue and a great speaker! If you do not have a ticket yet, please reach out to the Infonet committee for more information.

Interested in being part of the Executive? There are positions available. Come to our AGM on May 2nd. More details will be posted on our website and Eventbrite page.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

Cheers!

Membership in CSC

Dave Lawrence



In the construction industry's fast-paced environment, the need for and value of Construction Specifications Canada is greater than ever. CSC brings together individuals from all segments of the construction industry. All who have a vested interest in Canada's largest industry are invited to join CSC. When you join CSC, you become part of the only association that brings together professionals from all aspects of the construction industry.

DESIGN TEAM

CSC offers members of the Design Team the opportunity to meet with other members and exchange information. It also affords you the chance to help improve technology and its management, and the means to improve ways in which your ideals are translated into clear, concise, and complete documentation.

BUILDING TEAM

If you are a member of the Building Team, CSC offers you the opportunity to become involved in formulating specifications. Your valuable input into the programs can help generate time and cost savings, as well as improve performance.

SUPPLY TEAM

The multi-disciplinary composition of CSC allows members of the Supply Team to meet with other members of the construction team. CSC programs in data filing and information retrieval are geared to present convenient and concise information on your products for proper evaluation and specification.

THE STUDENT

If you are a student of architecture, engineering, or construction technology, CSC will provide you with a greater exposure to, and a better understanding of, the construction industry, giving you an excellent opportunity if you plan a career in the construction field.

People and Places – Welcome to new and past CSC Edmonton Chapter Members!

Fresh Faces (New Members)

None this month.

Yes, We've Moved (Contact / Mailing Address Update)

None this month.

Previous Members Re-Joining / Re-Activated

None this month.

CSC Education:

Mike Ewaskiw, CTR, Manager, Architectural & Engineering Services, Stonhard



Principles of Construction Documentation

The PCD course is an introductory course that will enable the student to have a better understanding of construction documentation (specifications, drawings, and schedules), products, bidding procedures, and contracts. **It is also a prerequisite to all the other CSC education courses.**

Specifier 1

Specifier 1 is an intermediate level course that will take the individual beyond the concepts previously introduced in the PCD Course. Although some of the same topics are included, the depth of comprehension and explanation exceed that of the PCD course. The Specifier 1 is a prerequisite for the **Certified Specification Practitioner (CSP)** designation from CSC. Successful completion of the course may be credited toward the experience component requirements for the Registered Specification Writer (RSW) designation.

Technical Representative

The TR course provides a better understanding of contract documents and bidding procedures, product representation, professionalism, and ethics, and will provide a new depth of understanding and explanation of concepts beyond what was previously introduced in the PCD course. The course is designed for the individual involved in the supply section of the construction industry, such as manufacturer representatives, agents, or distributors of products. The student will have successfully completed the PCD course. Contact Mike for all your education needs. P: 780-237-7844 E: mewaskiw@stonhard.com

EDUCATION COURSES

Upcoming Classes:

Principals of Construction Documentation (PCD) – Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Specifier – Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Construction Contract Administration (CCA) – Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Technical Representative (TR) – Monday, September 9, 2024, 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Upcoming Classes Online:

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) – TBD

Construction Contract Administrator (CCA) – TBD

Specifier – TBD

Technical Representative (TR) – TBD

Upcoming Virtual Classes:

Principles of Construction Documentation (PCD) – TBD

Construction Contract Administration (CCA) – TBD

Specifier (SP) – TBD

Technical Representative (TR) – TBD

Social Media:

Check us out:



11
APRIL

DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON
16615 109 AVE NW, EDMONTON



2024

INFONET



CSC

<https://edmonton.csc-dcc.ca/>

SCHEDULE FOR THE DAY

- 3:00PM RECEPTION AND TRADESHOW
- 5:30PM HOST ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 5:45PM DINNER
- 7:00PM HOST INTRODUCTIONS
- 7:20PM KEYNOTE SPEAKER
- 9:00PM NETWORKING

What is InfoNet?

InfoNet is the CSC Edmonton Chapters premier event of the year that combines networking, education, and inspiration. Join us for this half day experience and learn about new materials and technologies, reacquaint yourself with people in the design and construction industry and be inspired to foster some "out of the box" thinking.

Looking to Attend?

This is a sponsor invited event. If you have yet to receive an invitation, please email edmonton@csc-dcc.ca and a member of the committee will reach out to hosting tables. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of the InfoNet Committee

InfoNet Committee:

Chair, Andrew Brassington: Andrew.Brassington@owenscorning.com

Vice-Chair, Dylan Leclair: Dylan.Leclair@IKO.com

Program Officer, Abby Sharpe: a.sharpe@sound-rite.com

Secretary, Jessica Prosser: j.prosser@fullsteriron.com

Officer at Large, David Lawrence: davidlawrence@interbaun.com



With Keynote Speaker
Kevin Valley



2024 INFONET

Sponsor Instructions:
To sign up for the event, please go to Eventbrite and search:
CSC Edmonton InfoNet 2024

An attendee name is required at the time of sign-up, please enter "TBC" if you do not have a name at that time. There is a waiting list for tickets if a seat at your table needs to be filled. Please contact someone on the committee if you would like to request a name from the waiting list. A completed attendee list will be required no later than March 28th.

Who Should You Invite?
CSC Members, Specifiers, Architects, Engineers, City Planners, Developers, Contract Administrators, Trades People, Contractors, Interior Designers, Developers...
Anyone you deal with on a regular basis that would like to be inspired!

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Gold Sponsor:
\$2200 +GST (1 available)
Includes 8 dinner tickets, tabletop display in the tradeshow, guest speaker at your table, introduction of guest speaker, premium table placement, five page PowerPoint advertisement during the meal.

The Silver and Bronze levels will support the attendance of one student that will be placed at your sponsored table.

Silver Sponsor:
\$1950 +GST
Includes 7 dinner tickets, tabletop display in the tradeshow, prime table placement, two page PowerPoint advertisement during the meal.

Bronze Sponsor:
\$1750 +GST
Includes 7 dinner tickets, tabletop display in the tradeshow, company acknowledgement in the PowerPoint presentation

If you don't see a package that meets your needs, contact one of the committee members

All Sponsorship packages include company acknowledgement in the May 2024 edition of the Specifier

PRESENTING KEYNOTE SPEAKER KEVIN VALLELY



After spending nearly twenty years testing the limits of human endurance in the most inhospitable environments on the planet, Kevin Vallely inspires audiences with his core belief that it doesn't take a hidden talent or a gift to achieve big goals, it's something we're all capable of doing.

As a keynote speaker, award-winning architect and internationally recognized adventurer, Kevin offers a unique perspective that no matter what the goal, the fundamentals to achieving success as a trusted leader is to walk the talk, create purposeful collaboration, and build psychological trust. Kevin has learned that these fundamentals allow any team to operate at their peak performance regardless of where they operate.

Kevin has proven that he can thrive in the most adverse conditions imaginable. He has overcome insurmountable setbacks by seeing them as opportunities for creative thinking and innovation rather than as impediments to success. Through his experiences he has garnered a powerful understanding of leadership, resilience and perspective in unpredictable and fast-changing environments and has translated this knowledge into a business acumen that activates and amplifies leadership instincts.

Connecting to WHY he does what he does – the purpose behind his goals – is key to what drives Kevin's actions and the legacy he hopes to create.

Named one of Canada's leading adventurers by the Globe and Mail, Kevin is a member of the esteemed Explorer's Club and was an Explorer's Club Flag recipient when attempting his first human-powered traverse of the Northwest Passage in 2013.

He has skied the length of Alaska's 1180-mile Iditarod Trail in the dead of winter, has retraced the infamous Sandakan Death March through the jungles of Borneo for the first time since WWII and in 2009 broke the World Record for the fastest unsupported trek from the edge of the Antarctic continent to the Geographic South Pole.

A lead facilitator and expedition manager for the leadership development company The AIP Group (Adventures Inspiring Performance), Kevin uses exciting immersive learning adventure simulations with the latest in neuroscience and performance research to optimize leadership learning.

In February 2020 Kevin released his new book *Wild Success : 7 Key Lessons Business Leaders can Learn from Extreme Adventurers*.





GOLF TOURNAMENT



COME RAIN OR SHINE!

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2024
FINAL DEADLINE: MAY 24, 2024**

2024 JUNE 6	CATTAIL CROSSING GOLF CLUB
	24427 TOWNSHIP RD 542, EDMONTON, AB T8T 1L4



CSC AND ABE CN ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

**\$185 EARLY BIRD
\$225 AFTER EARLY BIRD
CSC / ABE CN MEMBERS**

**\$210 EARLY BIRD
\$250 AFTER EARLY BIRD
NON-MEMBERS**

HOLE SPONSOR \$500 (17)

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- HOSTED HOLE AVAILABLE

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- TABLE SPACE ON ONE HOLE
- CONTACT US FOR FURTHER DETAILS

50/50 SPONSOR \$500 (2)

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- 2 PLAYER SPOTS
- TABLE SPACE IN CLUBHOUSE
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AT EVENT/MARKETING MATERIALS



2024 JUNE 6	CATTAIL GOLF COURSE
	24427 TOWNSHIP RD 542, EDMONTON, AB T8T 1L4



**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE: APRIL 30, 2024
FINAL DEADLINE: MAY 24, 2024**

Articles of Interest

World's Largest Cruise Ship Sets Sail Amid Sustainability Concerns

Sourced from: <https://www.dezeen.com> / Rima Sabina Aouf



Royal Caribbean's near-10,000-capacity Icon of the Seas has set sail on its maiden voyage amid controversy over the environmental impact of its new fuel.

The 20-deck-high Icon of the Seas, which is the world's largest cruise ship, set off from Miami on Saturday, headed on its first cruise in the Caribbean.

Designed with contributions from Skylab Architecture, Wilson Butler Architects, 3Deluxe and RTKL,

the ship weighs 248,663 gross tonnes – around five Titanics – and has room for 7,600 guests and 2,350 crew.

Onboard are 2,805 cabins, seven pools, the world's largest ship-based waterpark and eight separate "neighbourhoods" that are home to restaurants, bars, and entertainment.

There are also two tanks of liquefied natural gas (LNG) – a first-time fuel source for Royal Caribbean, which has called it "the cleanest fossil fuel available" and the Icon of the Seas its "most sustainable ship yet".

However, critics have said the cruise line has failed to include methane leakage from the new fuel system in its emissions calculations.

The use of LNG, also known as methane, cuts down on dangerous pollutants like sulfur and nitrogen oxides, and is estimated to produce about 30% less carbon dioxide emissions than the heavy fuel oils currently used in cruise ships. However, not all of the gas is successfully burned during use – some of it always escapes into the atmosphere.

Because methane is considered worse than carbon dioxide for the atmosphere over the short term – it breaks down faster, but it is about 80 times more potent over a 20-year-period – it's estimated that the switch could be overall worse for greenhouse gas emissions.

"They are doubling down by calling LNG a green fuel when the engine is emitting 70 to 80% more greenhouse gas emissions per trip than if it used regular marine fuel," International Council of Clean Transportation (ICCT) marine programme director Bryan Comer told the Guardian.

"Icon has the largest LNG tanks ever installed in a ship. It is greenwashing."

The ICCT released a report about methane emissions from LNG-fuelled ships on January 25, two days before the Icon of the Seas set sail.

For its part, Royal Caribbean says that LNG will be a "transitional fuel" on the way to its first net-zero cruise ship, which it plans to introduce by 2035.

The Icon of the Seas, pictured enroute to its delivery in Miami, is the largest cruise ship ever built.



The ship was likened to a dystopian version of the game Candy Crush



from the Mitsubishi Corporation, which retrofitted a cargo ship with sails so it could be powered by wind.

Among its six waterslides is one that cantilevers over the ocean, while its seven pools include a suspended infinity pool.

Its eight neighbourhoods include "Thrill Island", which is home to waterparks and a "Crown's Edge" adventure described as "part skywalk, part ropes course and part thrill ride on which adventurers swing 154 feet above the ocean".

There is also Chill Island with its pools, Central Park with its greenery and open air, and the AquaDome entertainment complex, said to be the largest glass and steel structure to be lifted onto a cruise ship.

The Icon of the Seas has a dual-fuel engine so it can use both diesel and LNG, and among the other energy-saving initiatives on board is the first waste-to-energy plant to operate at sea.

Royal Caribbean has pitched the Icon of the Seas as a "multigenerational family holiday", with CEO and president Michael Bayley describing it as a "a one-of-a-kind vacation for every type of family and adventurer".

Constructed at the shipyard of Meyer Turku in Finland over five years, the vessel was built in "grand blocks" that Royal Caribbean said were assembled like Lego.

The 365-metre-long Icon of the Seas went viral when its renders were revealed last year, showing a teeming mass of people, cabanas, and colourful slides.

One X user compared it to a Hieronymus Bosch painting and another to "the Candy Crush version of the dystopian underground world in Silo".

Cruise lines have been under pressure to switch from petroleum, with research suggesting that a large cruise ship can have a carbon footprint greater than 12,000 cars.

A perhaps more promising effort at sustainable shipping came last year

The Purported World's Shortest International Bridge Connects a Homeowner in Canada to his Backyard in New York

Sourced from: <https://www.atlasobscura.com> / Lizzie Crook



ZAVIKON ISLAND IS HOME TO a bridge that, at only 32 feet in length, is considered the shortest international bridge in the world. It connects a Canadian island with an American island in the middle of the Saint Lawrence River.

The boundary agreement that was drafted between Canada and the United States declares that no island can be split into two territories. Two-thirds of the islands in this bunch, the Thousand Islands, belong to Canada, but the total area of the Canadian islands is roughly equal to the other one-third, which are considered to be American territory.

It just so happens that these two islands were joined by a bridge because the smaller island is owned by the same person who owns the house on the larger, Canadian island (at left in the accompanying photographs). They use the smaller island as a backyard. However, the truth of this has been questioned as a tourist ploy since the 1880s, with both islands being in Canada according to some sources.

The Thousand Islands chain that Zavikon is a part of is an archipelago of islands that straddle the Canada-US border. They stretch for about 50 miles from Kingston, Ontario, with the islands on the American side belonging to New York. There are over 1,800 islands in the archipelago, and they range from larger islands with an area of over 40 square miles to tiny piles of rocks that are used by migrating birds and other waterfowl. That number of islands, 1,864, was determined by only counting those that remain above water 365 days a year and support a living tree.



An Ex-FBI Agent Explains how to Recognize the Power Dynamics in a Room

Sourced from: <https://www.fastcompany.com> / Stephanie Vozza

You've decided to ask for a raise. Should you go into your boss's office first thing in the morning to get it out of the way? Or wait until the afternoon? Wait until tomorrow? Your chances of success will depend on your ability to read the room.

Paying attention to the narrative – spoken and unspoken – can provide information that gives you an advantage in essential negotiations, as well as during a job interview and any other critical meeting, according to Adele Gambardella and Chip Massey, coauthors of *Convince Me: High-Stakes Negotiation Tactics to Get Results in Any Business Situation*.

The key is forensic listening, which is different from active listening. "Forensic listening is the art of finding and listening to clues," says Massey, a former FBI hostage negotiator. "It's when and how people pause, what they emphasize, and what the tone of their voice communicates. By deconstructing these aspects, you can reveal a hidden narrative others may have missed."

Forensic Listening in Action

Massey recounts a negotiation he facilitated with an enforcer of a drug cartel who was in federal prison. "He had eight murders that were associated with him, so he wasn't getting out," Massey recalls. "We knew he had information on a rival cartel that would help us work a large case against them. We went in and had some ideas. These guys are very transactional. It's all about what we're going to do for them."

Massey offered to improve the man's cell condition, with no reaction. He offered to move him to a new prison system, closer to his family. The man just stared into the distance. Finally, Massey realized the unstated narrative. Standing up as if to leave, Massey told him, "Obviously, this was a waste of our time. You have no real interest in sharing information. But listen, I just wanted to say one thing. The way you moved in this organization, the things you did, while I can't condone any of it, from an absolute practical business perspective, I have to say, 'respect.'"

The man looked Massey in the eye and started offering information. "I figured out that he wasn't interested in anything I had to offer," Massey says. "What he wanted was to be recognized as an expert in this area. Once I found the unstated narrative, we were off to the races."

How to Listen Forensically

When you pay attention, you can read a room and catch the things that are important to others. Gambardella and Massey share their forensic note-taking processes, which break up conversations and behaviors into four quadrants.

Emotions

When you walk into a meeting, look for a display of emotions. Do people feel empowered, disengaged, excited, or discouraged? Are you hearing a lot of laughter? Is it more subdued? "Label it," says Gambardella, a crisis communications expert.

Also, look for the balance of power in the room. Is there a definite alpha person in the group, and do people seem to appreciate or resent that person's leadership?

Massey suggests taking notice of how people are responding to each other and to you. "If you walk into a room and find people broken off into groups, there's probably something at hand that is

divisive,” he says. “There are reasons why people are in groups with hushed tones. They’ve got things that they don’t want to share with other people.”

Body Positioning

Body language can also help you read a room. Note how someone is positioned relative to you and others in the room. Are they sitting squarely before you, or are they angling themselves away? Are they actively looking around, or are they focused on the conversation? If they’re standing, are they moving back and forth on the balls of their feet? Massey says it could indicate that they are getting ready to move away from you.

“What you’re saying may not be as appealing as it first started, or perhaps they need to get somewhere else,” he explains.

Gambardella concurs, noting that people leave a lot of clues in meetings. “Hone in on some of these things, because most people don’t,” she says.

Themes and Word Choice

Pay attention to stories or words that are repeated. Themes often develop in conversations that will tell you what is important to the person sharing them. “Word choice can reveal what someone is thinking,” Gambardella says. “Also pay attention if someone is parroting someone else. Are they telling the person what they want to hear?”

Listen for jargon or buzzwords that might indicate that the person is trying to demonstrate their relevance or mask the fact that they have nothing significant to add. And notice if a certain topic is avoided.

It can help to pretend you’re a journalist, Gambardella says. “[Journalists] listen more intently than most people because they’re listening to write the story. Most people are just observing the room, observing the situation, they’re not really engaged at the same level.”

Voice

People have patterns when they talk, and Massey says they can reveal a lot. Pay attention to the pitch and tone of their voice. Does it go up or down? Is their speech rapid or cautious? Are they loud or soft-spoken? It helps if you’ve encountered the person before so you can identify a baseline.

“Words leave clues,” Massey says. “We advocate for people to build a baseline. It’s borrowing FBI techniques of getting a personality baseline of somebody. Watch and listen to that person in as many contexts as you can. At a restaurant with a client meeting, for example. How do they treat the waitstaff? How are they treating the client? How are they treating you? It’s a process of forensic listening.”

You can build a profile by putting these things together, such as how someone’s demeanor is early in the morning versus late afternoon. You may realize your boss doesn’t like to be approached with new ideas in the morning, but she’s more amenable later in the day.

Putting it all Together

While you can get helpful information after just one encounter, Gambardella suggests taking notes during every meeting for a few weeks. “Most of us are listening to respond, we’re not really paying attention to other people’s emotions,” she says. “Reading the room is looking for when the room tone changes.”

Massey adds that before every meeting, it’s a good idea to go around a room and engage with people to see where they’re at. “Where does the power seem to be forming from? Who are people focused on? Listen for the themes that are coming back again and again,” he says. “That will help you to

develop the picture of what's going on in that room.”

Reading a room requires identifying the unstated narrative – the disconnect between what somebody believes and what they're telling you. “We're all trained to be diplomats at different kinds of levels, depending upon our personality,” Massey says. “But it is so important for us to read between those lines.”

How are Cities Adapting to Heatwaves in the Face of Climate Change?

Sourced from: <https://www.archdaily.com> / Maria-Christina Florian

The climate crisis has made heatwaves more likely and more intense around the world. Record-breaking high temperatures are being reported across the world. According to international data, the first week of July 2023 was the hottest week on record, putting millions of people in danger. All throughout this summer, recurring heatwaves have been affecting large portions of Asia, Europe, and the United States, priming the land for fires in places like Greece, Spain, and Canada, triggering unhealthy air warnings, evacuations, and heat-related deaths. The increasingly threatening effects of the climate crisis are also felt in cities worldwide, as extreme heat proves to be a rapidly growing health risk to millions of urban dwellers.

Cities are on the front lines of this public health emergency. People living in urban areas are among the hardest hit when heatwaves happen, partly because of urban heat islands. This is a phenomenon that occurs when cities replace the natural land cover with dense concentrations of surfaces that absorb and retain heat, like pavements and buildings. Heat risk levels also vary by neighborhood, with less affluent and historically marginalized sectors being the most affected due to the density of the population, limited access to cooling systems, and the limited availability of green urban spaces.

Read on for a list of measures cities can take to mitigate the effects of rising temperatures.

Expanding the Green Infrastructure

Urban green spaces are perhaps the most efficient and intuitive way to reduce urban heat island effects and provide comfort for nearby occupants. Expanding the green infrastructure and improving access to parks and urban gardens is especially relevant in low-income neighborhoods, known to have fewer and smaller parks and green spaces, a phenomenon known as the “park equity gap.” Trees and other plants help cool the environment by providing shade and through evapotranspiration. Besides increasing the number of parks and gardens within a city, vegetation can be integrated into the urban fabric in a multitude of ways, from planting trees along the streets to green roofs and vertical walls, all playing a role in providing thermal comfort to local residents.

Using Reflective Surfaces for Pavements and Roofs

In recent years, several innovative materials have been developed that capitalize on the benefits of white paint to reflect heat off of buildings and pavements and create cooler temperatures that reduce the use of additional mechanical cooling systems. The Coolest White paint, developed by UNStudio, is an example of a coating system with a very high total solar reflectance (TSR). Other pilot projects are using reflective asphalt-based coatings, such as CoolSeal paint, to cover streets and pavements in an effort to reduce the side effects of heat islands. Opting for simple white paint, even without any special anti-heat properties, can also significantly contribute to a cooler overall environment.

Replacing Air Conditioning with Passive Cooling Systems

Whenever temperatures start rising, people begin to rely more and more on air conditioning systems to keep cool. Besides being an unsustainable, energy-intensive system, waste heat released from the

AC also contributes to the heat island effect. Cooling solutions can be divided into two categories: active, such as AC systems, or passive. The latter refers to strategies that regulate heat gain and dissipation with little or no energy consumption. This involves preventing heat gain through shading and insulation and dissipating the heat already accumulated through ventilation, evaporative cooling, or other similar options.

Preparing Climate Shelters for Residents

While most of these efforts involve long-term planning processes, cities are also implementing seasonal measures to protect their most valuable citizens from extreme heat. Cities like Barcelona and Paris have created networks of climate shelters. These are specially conditioned spaces kept at 26°C with good accessibility, rest, and water areas to ease the sensation of heat. Public spaces and local schools across the cities are adapted to serve as shelters, while outdoor parks with a high presence of urban greenery and water fountains are also promoted. The city of Paris has also implemented a mobile app that monitors thermal comfort in all city areas and helps users find the nearest cooling space, free drinking water spot, or plan the best route to avoid discomfort.

Water Features and Public Pools

Introducing water features like fountains, ponds, and misters in public spaces can also contribute to creating a more comfortable environment by lowering ambient temperatures through evaporative cooling. Additionally, increasing access to public pools can also offer citizens a safe environment for people to cool off, enhancing the city's overall livability and contributing to public health. One positive example is the municipality of Paris, France, which, during the hot summer months, creates pop-up beaches called Paris Plages, or along the quayside of the river Seine, complete with three floating pools installed on the river along the Basin de la Villette.

ASSOCIATION LINKS

- **Alberta Construction Safety Association (ACSA)**
www.acsa-safety.org
- **Alberta Building Envelope Council (ABEC)**
www.abecnorth.org
- **Building Information Modeling (BIM) Forum**
www.insightinfo.com/bimforum
- **Biomimicry Guild**
www.biomimicryguild.com
- **Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC)** www.cagbc.org
- **CCDC Documents**
www.ccdc.org/home.html
- **Construction Specifications Institute (CSI)** www.csinet.org
- **International Construction Information Society (ICIS)** www.icis.org
- **OmniClass**
- **Architecture 2030**
www.architecture2030.org
- **BuildingSMART Alliance** (North American Chapter of BuildingSMART):
www.buildingsmartalliance.com
BuildingSMART International (formerly IAI)
www.buildingsmart.com
- **Biomimicry Institute**
www.biomimicryinstitute.org
- **Canada BIM Council**
www.canbim.com
- **Canadian Green Building Council (CaGBC) – Alberta Chapter:**
www.cagbc/chapters/alberta
- **Construction Specifications Canada (CSC)**
www.csc-dcc.ca
- **buildingSMART Data Dictionary**
bsdd.buildingsmart.org
- **MasterFormat**

www.omniclass.ca
www.omniclass.org

- **Uniformat**
www.csinet.org/uniformat
- **Institute for BIM in Canada (IBM)**
www.ibt-bim.ca

(<https://secure.spex.ca/siteadmin/freedocuments/images/1.pdf>)

- **buildingSMART Canada**
www.buildingsmartcanada.ca
- **Ace BIM**
www.acebim.ca

ASSOCIATION LIAISONS

Alberta Association of Architects (AAA)
<http://www.aaa.ab.ca/>

Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA)
www.apca.ca

Alberta Wall & Ceiling Association (AWCA)
<http://awca.ca>

Alberta Roofing Contractors Association (ARCA)
<http://www.arcaonline.ca>
info@arcaonline.ca

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and
 Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE)
<http://www.ashrae.org/> / ashrae@ashrae.org

The Canadian Wood Council (CWC)
<http://www.cwc.ca>
info@cwc.ca

Portland Cement Association
ConcreteTechnology@cement.org

Interior Designers of Alberta
www.interiordesignalberta.com

Alberta Painting Contractors Association (APCA)
www.apca.ca

Association of Professional Engineers,
 Geologists, and Geophysicists of Alberta
 (APEGGA)

<http://www.apegga.org/> dward@apegga.org

Association of Science and Engineering
 Technology Professionals of Alberta (ASET)
<http://www.aset.ab.ca/>

Russ Medvedev, russm@aset.ab.ca

Building Owners and Managers Association
 (BOMA)
<http://www.bomaedmonton.org/> /
edmonton@boma.ca

Consulting Engineers of Alberta (CEA)
<http://www.cea.ca/> info@cea.ca

Edmonton Construction Association
www.edmca.com
contact@edmca.com

Terrazzo, Tile & Marble Association of Canada
 (TTMAC)
<http://www.ttmac.com/>
association@ttmac.com

Bulletin Board

Message from the Executive:




















We in the Executive are looking for creative-minded individuals who can take on a position and follow through with ideas...if this is YOU, send a message to information@cscedmonton.ca and we will be quick to get back to you!

Open Positions Include:

Chapter Liaison
Sustainability
Contractor's Rep

You don't need to be a member of the Committee to come and participate in our monthly Chapter meetings but watch out if you do! You may find yourself holding a position...maybe even as Chapter Chair...

The Executive

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